



LANZING
KELLY
DUNBAR
BEREDO

BATMAN

BEYOND

NEO-GOthic



13+
TEEN

ATTACK OF THE GARDEN!



**THE KING OF
SKULL ISLAND
ENTERS THE
BATTLE!**

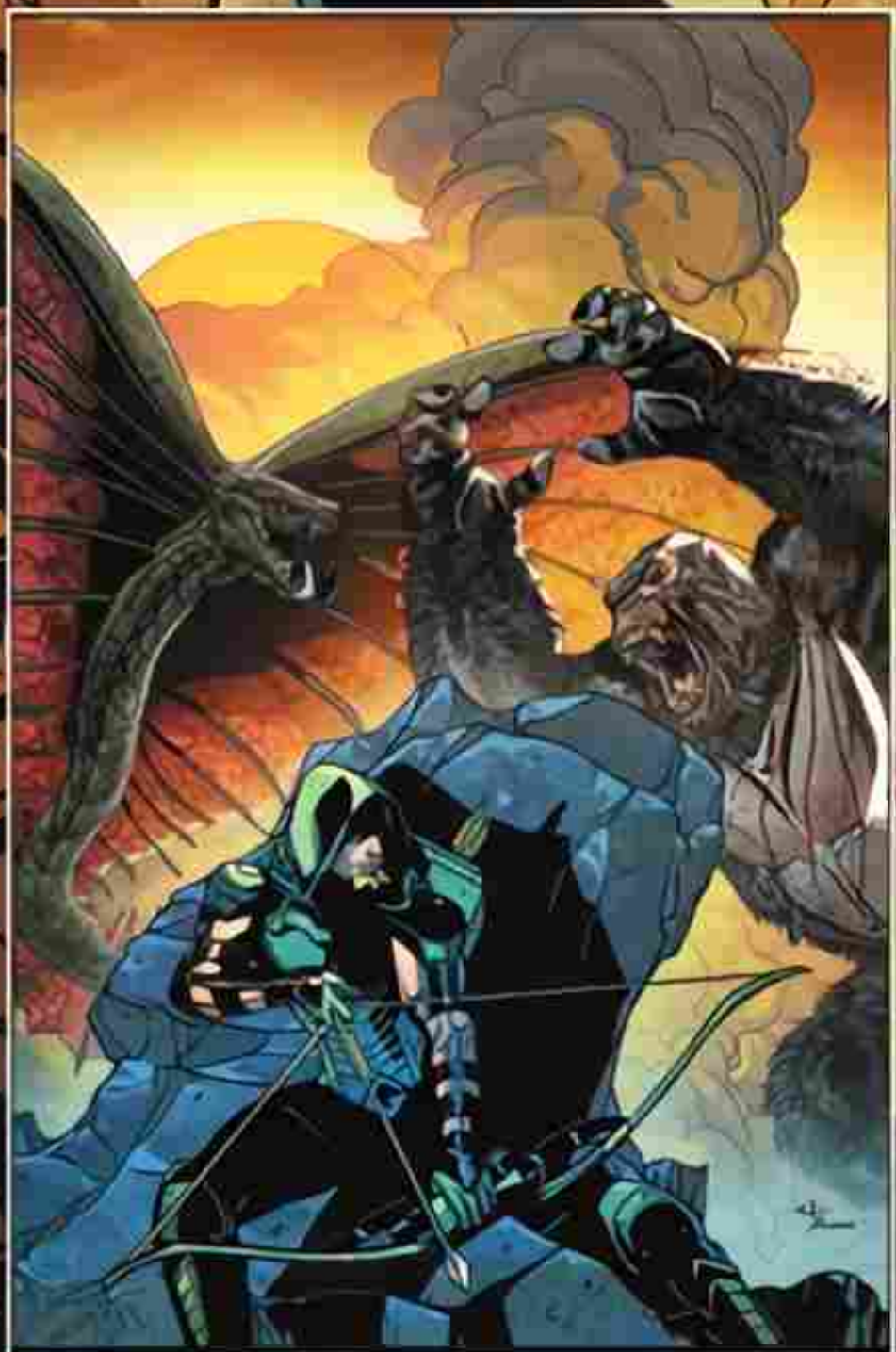
JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG #3

**Written by
BRIAN
BUCCELLATO**
**Art by
CHRISTIAN
DUCE**

**The earth-shattering
crossover event continues.**

December

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**Justice League vs.
Godzilla vs. Kong #3**

Main cover by Drew Johnson

ONCE, WE LOVED YOU.



WHEN YOU TENDED US AND ATE FROM OUR SOIL.



BEFORE THE STONE TOWERS. BEFORE THE IRON SMOKE.



BEFORE YOU GAVE UP ON US.



BEFORE YOU GAVE UP ON YOUR OWN.



ONCE, WE LOVED YOU.



ONCE~



DC COMICS
Proudly Presents
BATMAN
BEYOND
NEO-GOTHIC

Chapter 5:

THE GREEN

BATMAN created by
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KYLE,
YOU'VE
GOT TO
GO!

GO?!
YOU WANT ME TO
LEAVE YOU BEHIND **NOW?**
BECAUSE MAYBE THAT
WOULD'VE BEEN A BETTER
MOVE **BEFORE WE CAME**
ALL THE WAY TO THE
BEATING HEART OF
ELDRITCH
GOTHAM!

I'M
NOT TELLING
YOU TO **LEAVE.**
WE'RE IN THIS
TOGETHER. AND
YOU KNOW WHAT
PARTNERS
DO?

THEY
COORDINATE.

YOU GO FIND
CONSTANTINE.

I'LL
PULL THE
WEEDS.

POISON IVY
I RECOGNIZE. AND
BLACK ORCHID--
YOU'RE A
DEEP CUT.

GOTTA
ADMIT, THOUGH,
I'VE GOT **NO**
IDEA WHO YOU
ARE, **MUCK**
MAN...

...BUT
YOU'RE NOT
GROWING
ON ME!



ALL
RIGHT, YOU
OLD COWARD,
TIME TO SHOW
YOUR DAMN
FACE.

EKAT
EM OT
NHOJ.

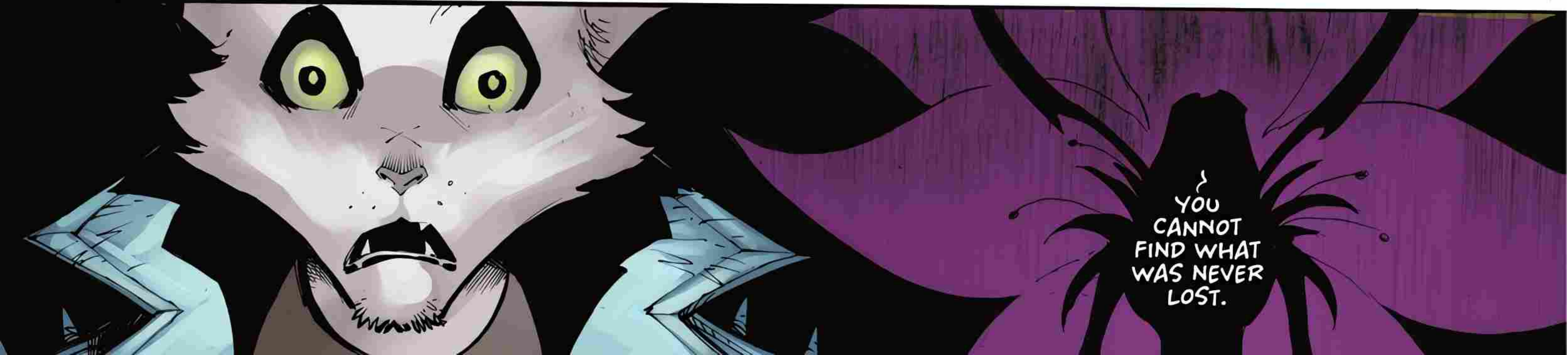
HEH.
CAN'T HIDE
FROM YOUR
OWN MAGIC,
YOU WRINKLED,
OLD...

EWX

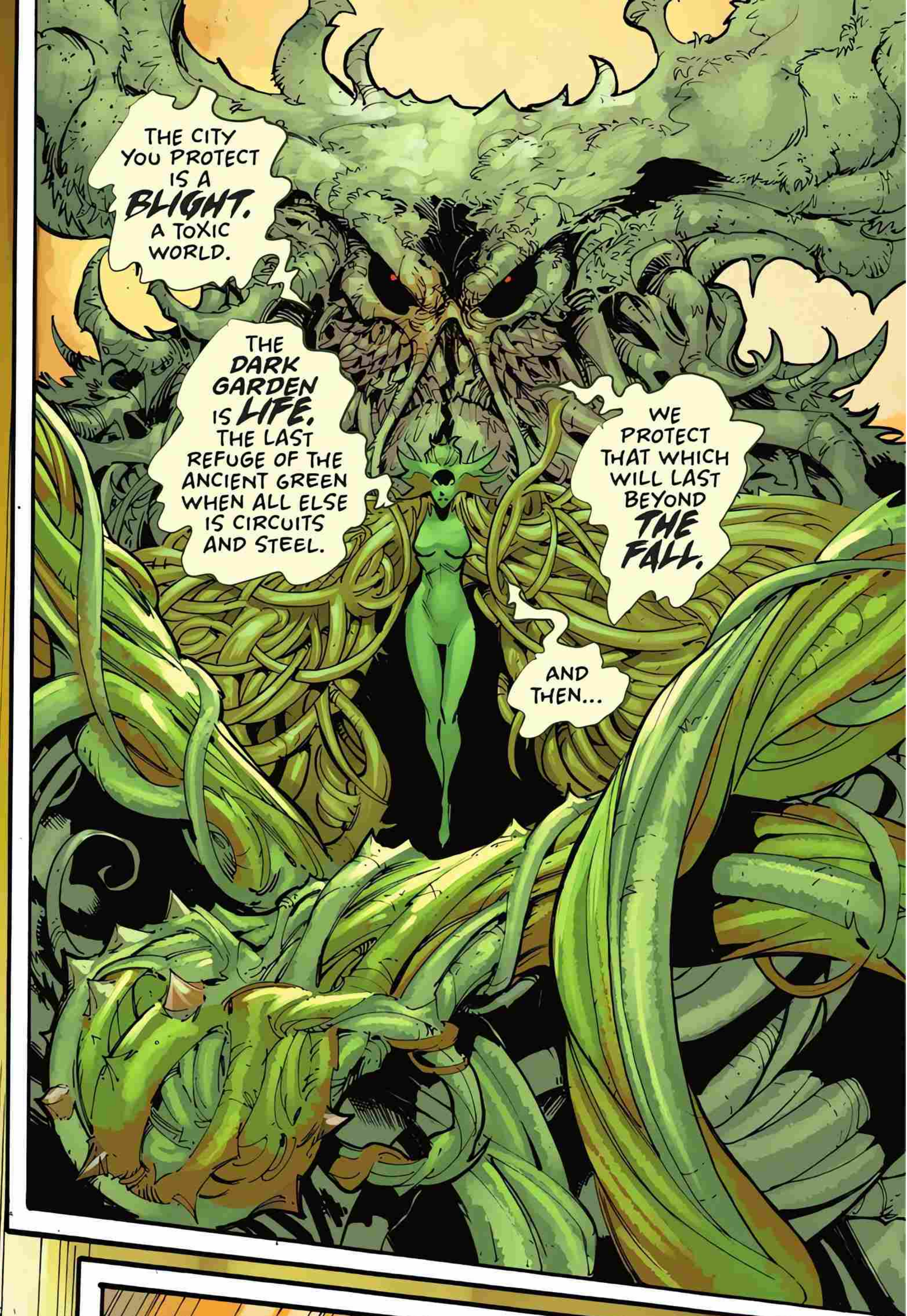
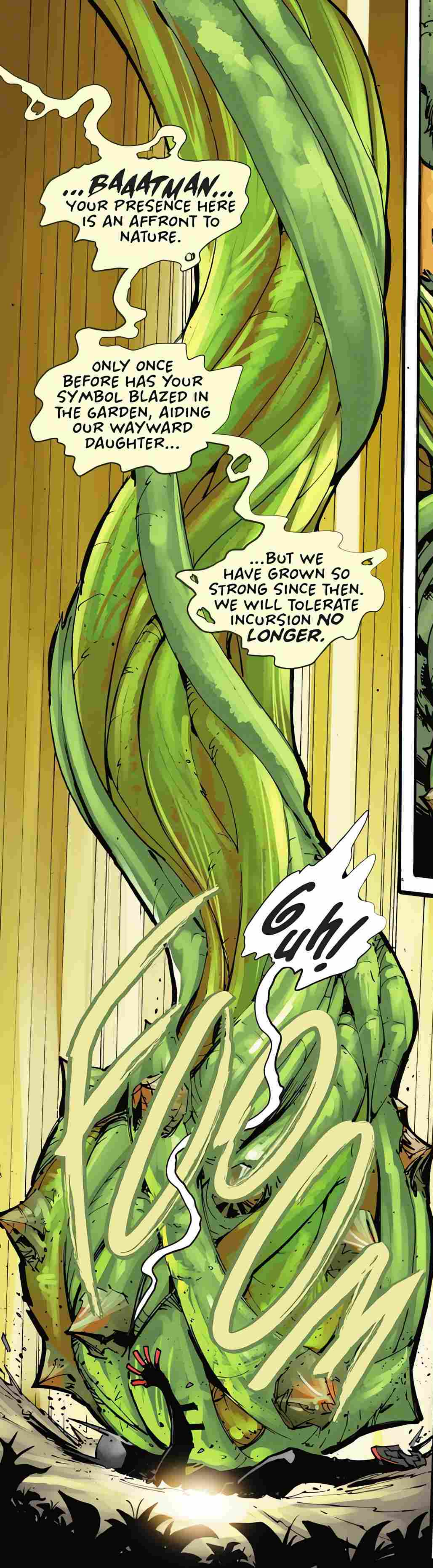
...WAIT.
SELINA'S
SOUL.

THE
KIDS.

BATMAN,
I FOUND THE
KIDS!



YOU
CANNOT
FIND WHAT
WAS NEVER
LOST.



THEY
ARE OURS TO
GROW!
PRECIOUS SEEDS,
UNTENDED! LEFT TO
BURN IN THE **FIRE**
OF FORGOTTEN
CONCRETE!

SEEDS
WHOM WE
HAVE TAKEN IN.
WHOM WE
WILL GROW.

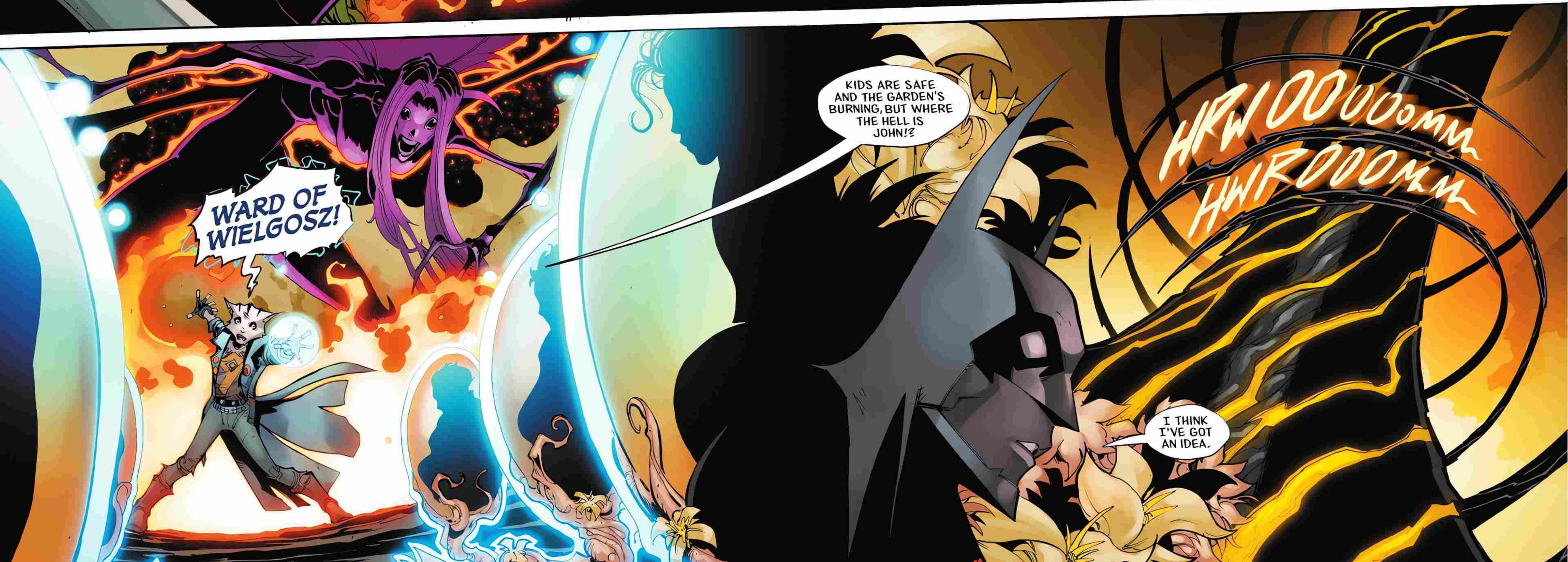
AND WHEN
WE RETURN TO
THE WORLD, AS
CERTAIN AS
SEASONS
TURN...

...THEY WILL
LEARN TO
GARDEN.

THANK

KIDS
AREN'T SEEDS.
AND THEY DON'T
DESERVE TO BE
BURIED.

BUT YOU
CERTAINLY
DESERVE
THE **FIRE.**





IF I
REMEMBER
THOSE LONG
DAYS OF BOTANY
LESSONS FROM
BRUCE...

...WHICH,
I GOTTA SAY,
I **NEVER**
THOUGHT
WOULD COME
IN HANDY...

...EVERY
TREE HAS A
TAPROOT, AN
ABSOLUTE
CENTER.

I THINK YOU
JUST FOUND
THEIRS.



AND I
THINK...

...I'M
MEOWT OF
GAS...



CAN YOU
HEAR ME, YOU
OLD DREG?

I KNOW IT'S
YOU WHO'S BEEN
STEALING THE
CHILDREN!

THEY'RE MINE TO PROTECT.

LIKE YOU
PROTECTED
KYLE?

THESE
CHILDREN HAVE
FAMILIES. THEY
HAVE LIVES!

LIVES. LIKE THAT MAKES
THEM WORTH LIVING.

THEY'RE LIKE
THIS PLACE.

THEY START AT THE BOTTOM,
ALREADY DREGS.

FORGOTTEN. DESOLATE. DEAD ROOTS TO BE TREAD UPON.

BUT IN THE RIGHT HANDS...
LIKE **MINE...**



...THEY CAN BE
MAGIC.



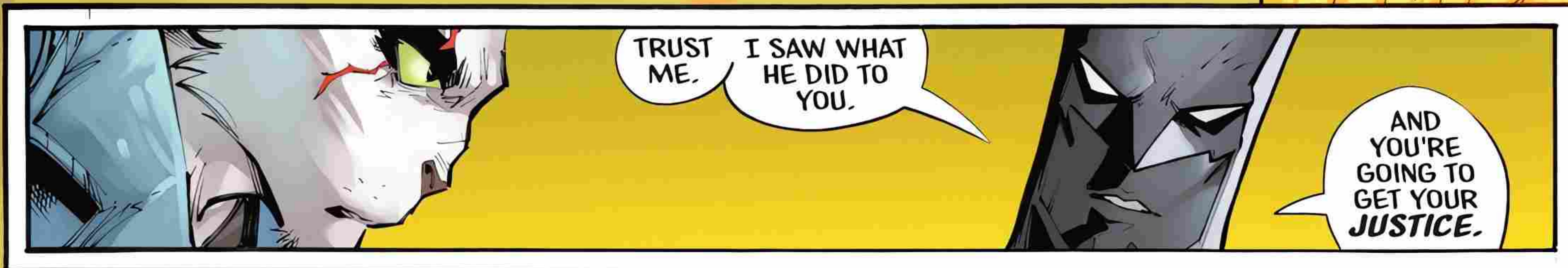
JOHN!
#@%&\$!
CONSTANTINE!



TAKE THEM BACK!
TAKE BACK YOUR
FLUXING LIFETIME
OF FLUXING CURSES
AND SHOVE THEM
UP YOUR--

KYLE.
NO.

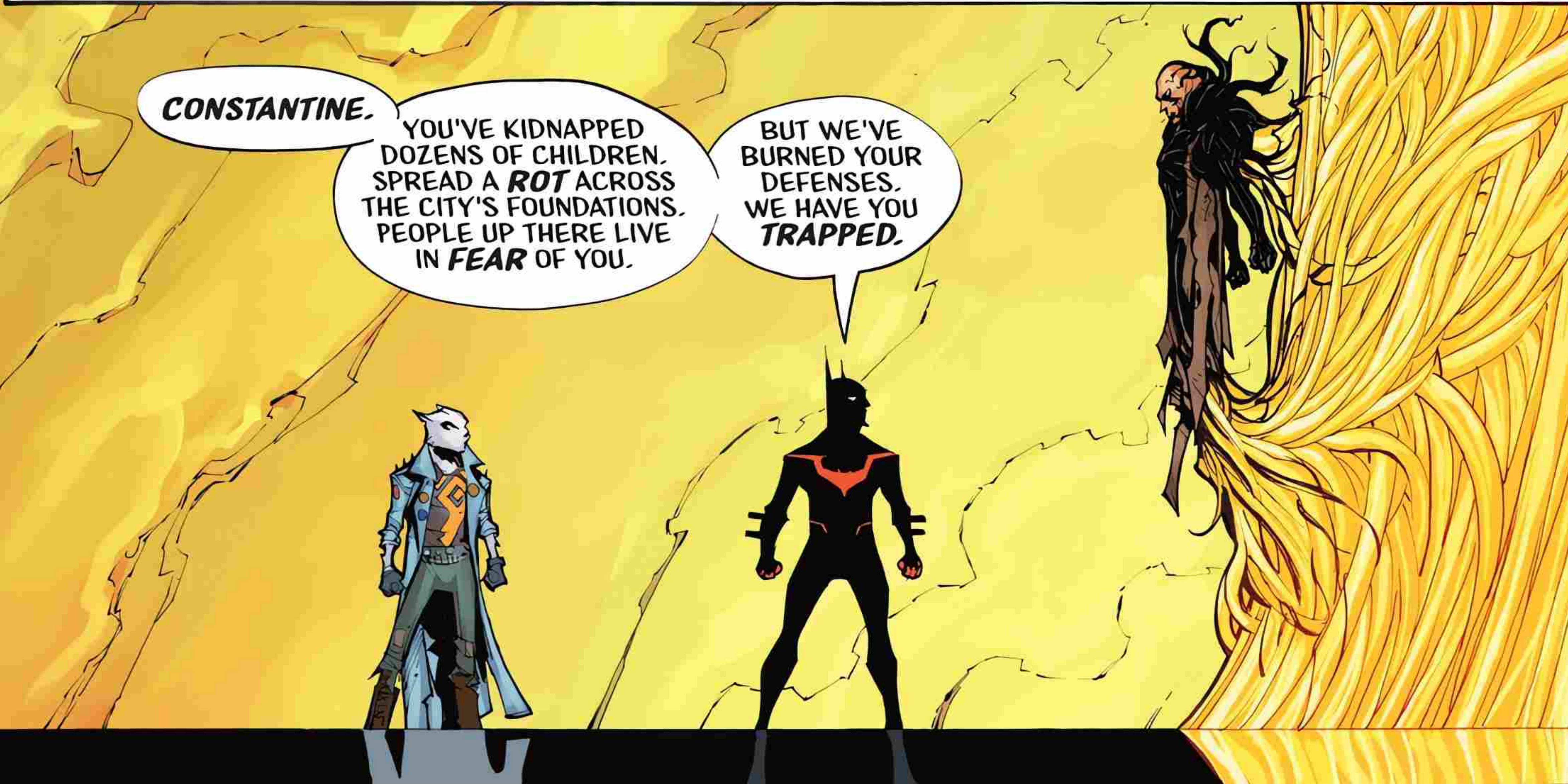
I'M NOT
GONNA LET
HIM GET AWAY
AGAIN--
HE
WON'T.



TRUST
ME.

I SAW WHAT
HE DID TO
YOU.

AND
YOU'RE
GOING TO
GET YOUR
JUSTICE.



CONSTANTINE.

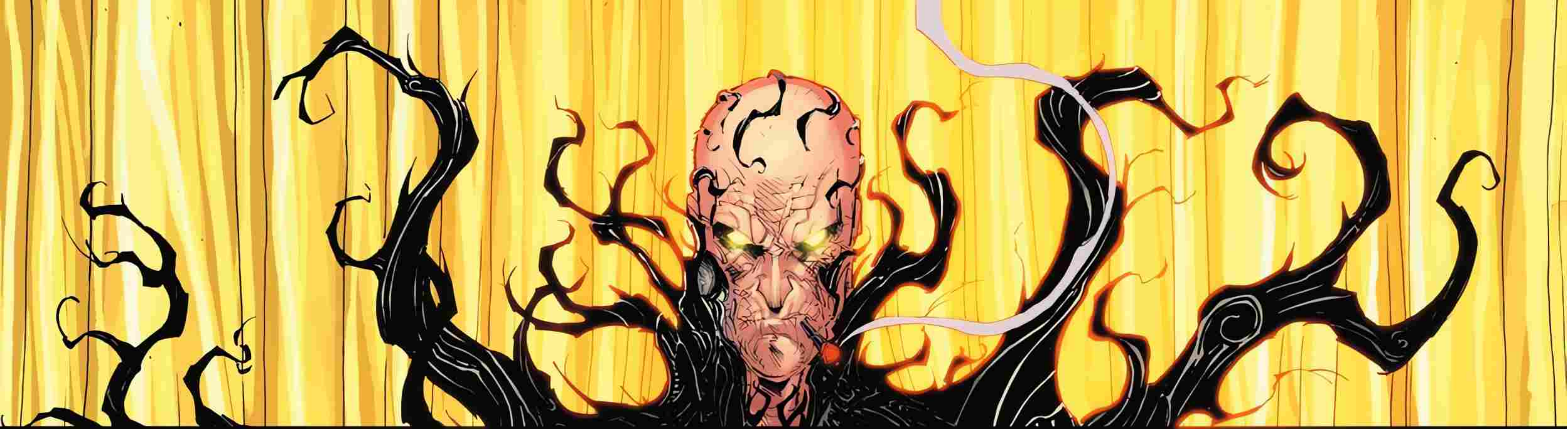
YOU'VE KIDNAPPED
DOZENS OF CHILDREN.
SPREAD A **ROT** ACROSS
THE CITY'S FOUNDATIONS.
PEOPLE UP THERE LIVE
IN **FEAR** OF YOU.

BUT WE'VE
BURNED YOUR
DEFENSES.
WE HAVE YOU
TRAPPED.



GIVE ME
ANSWERS...

...OR I'LL
GIVE YOU
PAIN.



YOU THINK I CAN STILL FEEL **PAIN**, SQUIRE?



YOU THINK I GIVE TWO SHAKES OF A DOG-END ABOUT **FEAR**?



I'M **DEAD**. I'M **FREE**. AND AFTER A LIFETIME OF BORROWING IT
AGAINST MY OWN SOUL, I'M FINALLY THE ROOT OF THE POWER.



I'M THE @\$/%&# **GREEN**.
ME.



I'M JUST SAYING WHAT LITTLE I CAN.



BULLKACK.

THE JOHN CONSTANTINE WHO MY MENTOR USED TO TALK ABOUT DIDN'T GIVE A CHIT ABOUT SOME KIDS. HE WAS A **DIRTBAG STREET MAGICIAN** WHO TOOK WHAT HE COULDN'T EARN.

AND YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT YOUR RETIREMENT PROJECT IS, **WHAT?** PUTTING TOGETHER A COLLECTION OF STOLEN CHILDREN? AFTER YOU REJECTED THE ONLY KID WHO EVER TRUSTED YOU? **I DON'T BUY IT.**

I'VE HEARD ENOUGH GHOST STORIES SINCE I CAME INTO THE DARK...

...IT'S TIME I GOT THE TRUTH.

YOU WANT THE TRUTH, YOU **ABSOLUTE TOSSER?**

HERE'S THE TRUTH.



YOUR WORLD IS *DYING*.



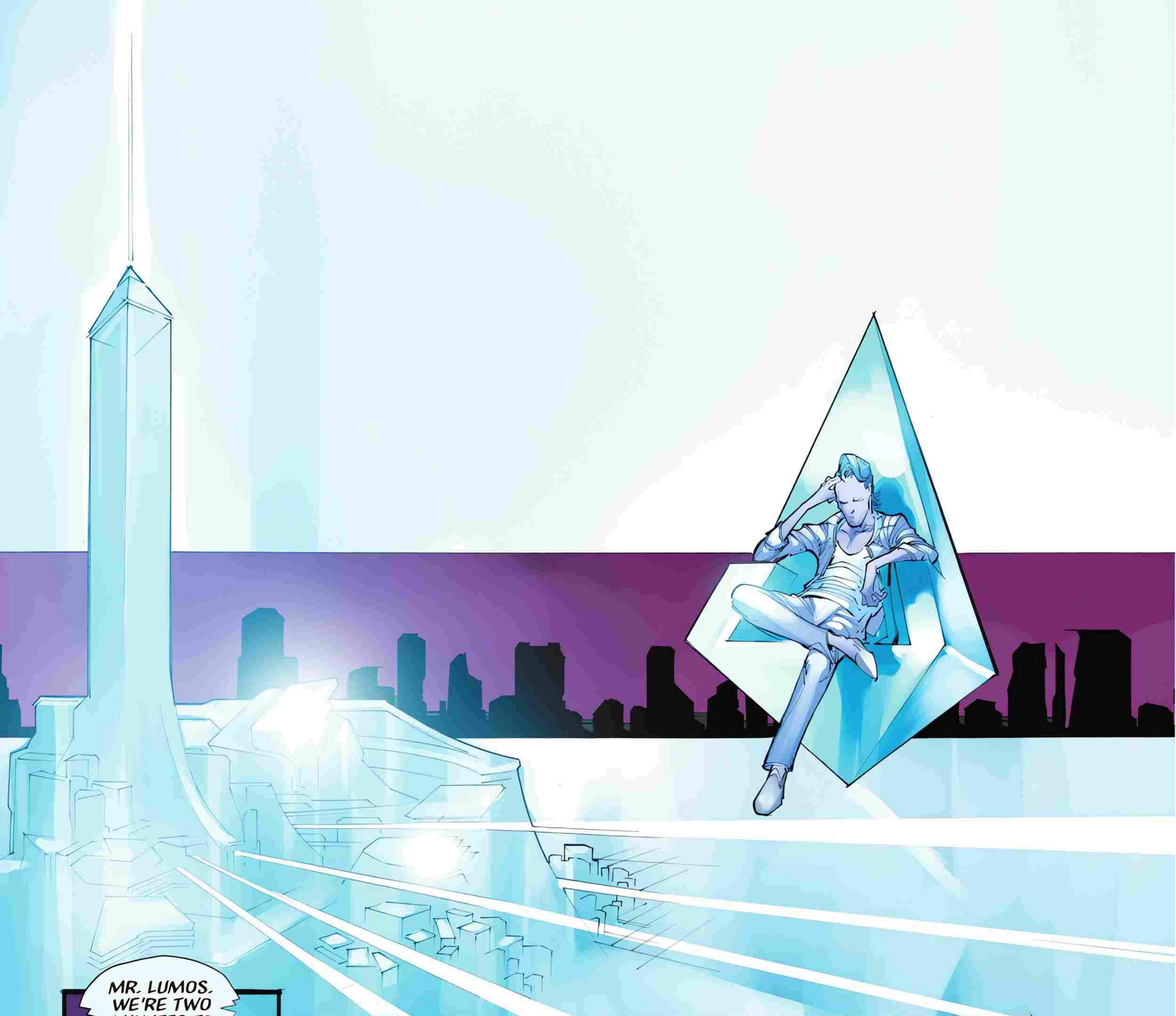
A CRISIS LOOMS BEYOND THE DARK.



ONLY *INNOCENCE* CAN BE SAVED.



...FROM
WHAT?



MR. LUMOS.
WE'RE TWO
MINUTES TO
MIDNIGHT.

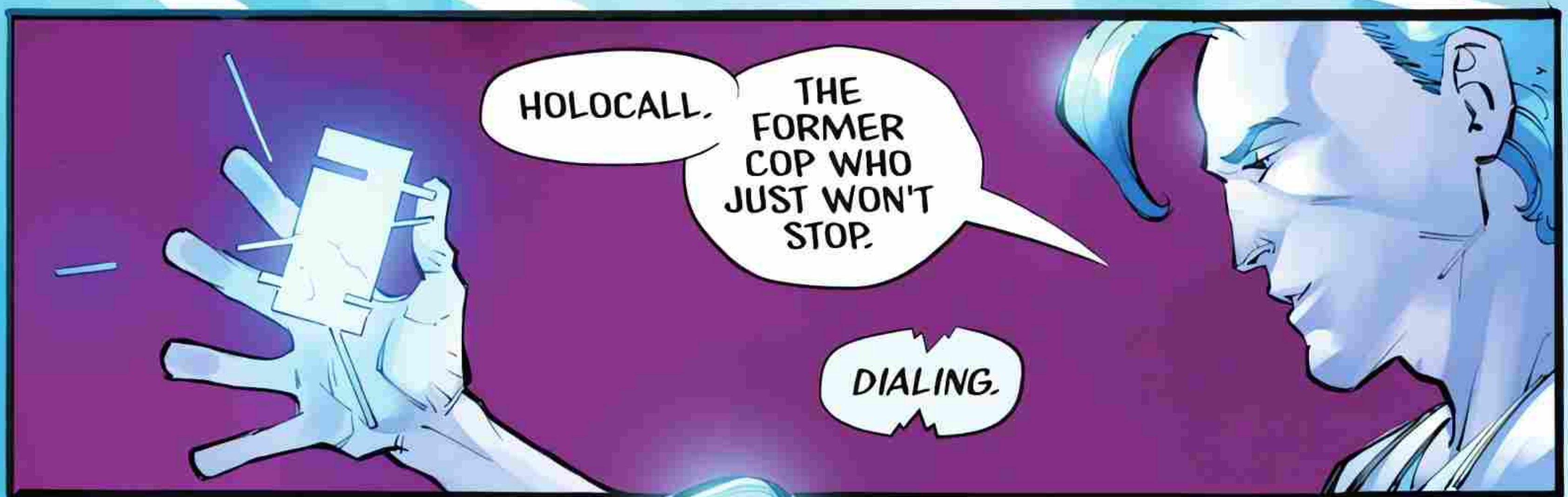
HNH.
SEND FOR
WHISKEY. THE
REAL STUFF, NOT
THAT SYNTH
SHIZ.



HOLOCALL.

THE
FORMER
COP WHO
JUST WON'T
STOP.

DIALING.



LUMOS.



DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GETTING **LONELY** IN THAT IVORY HOLO-TOWER OF YOURS.

BECAUSE I HAVE ZERO SYMPATHY FOR SCUMBAGS WHO FIND THEMSELVES IN PRISONS OF THEIR OWN MAKING.

JUST WANTED TO HEAR YOUR VOICE AS I FINALLY WON OUR LITTLE BATTLE, MY DEAR EX-DETECTIVE.

NO. ACTUALLY... I THINK IT'S THE **OPPOSITE**.

AH, SO THIS IS A **GLOATING** CALL? YOU DESTROY ONE OF THE LAST HISTORIC CITIES ON THE PLANET, AND I'M THE LUCKY GIRL WHO GETS TO HEAR YOU BE A TWIP ON THE ASHES. **JOY**.

I KNOW HOW **HARD** YOU'VE WORKED TO PROTECT THE CITY. THOSE OLD, RATTY BUILDINGS. THAT OPPRESSIVE HISTORY.

I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT...

...WELL, I **GET** IT.

NOT WANTING THINGS TO CHANGE.

THIS ISN'T **CHANGE**, LUMOS.

IT'S **ERASURE**.

IT'S **INJUSTICE**.

YEAH.

THE FUTURE REALLY DOESN'T GIVE A **FLUX**.



YOU ALMOST
SOUND LIKE YOU
REGRET IT.

I
ALMOST
DO.

THE WHOLE
SUPER-VILLAIN
SHTICK, IT GIVES
PEOPLE THE WRONG
IDEA. AND AFTER THAT
MESS WITH THE LIVING
GOTHAM, I FEEL LIKE
YOU AND YOUR
BATFRIEND GOT
THE WORST
OF IT.

LIKE YOU
THINK I GET
SOME KIND OF
PLEASURE OUT OF
DESTRUCTION.

BUT
I'M A
BUILDER,
BEAM.

AND WHAT
COMES NEXT IS
GOING TO BE
ABSOLUTELY
BEAUTIFUL.

KEEP
TELLING
YOURSELF
THAT.

MAYBE YOU
CAN IGNORE
ALL THE BODIES
YOU'VE BURIED
TO MAKE YOUR
BEAUTY.

YEAH.
MAYBE.

BUT I
DOUBT IT.

SNAP





THE WOUND. CAN YOU FEEL THE *WOUND*?



IT OPENS THE WAY TO THE *DARK SKIES* ABOVE.



THIS PLACE OF SAFETY IS GONE.



THE GARDEN IS *SHATTERED*.



THERE IS ONLY ONE RECOURSE LEFT
FOR OUR SEEDS TO THRIVE.





I NEED TO
GET BACK TO
GOTHAM.

WHAT?!
THIS PROBLEM
IS STILL VERY
MUCH **NOT**
SOLVED!

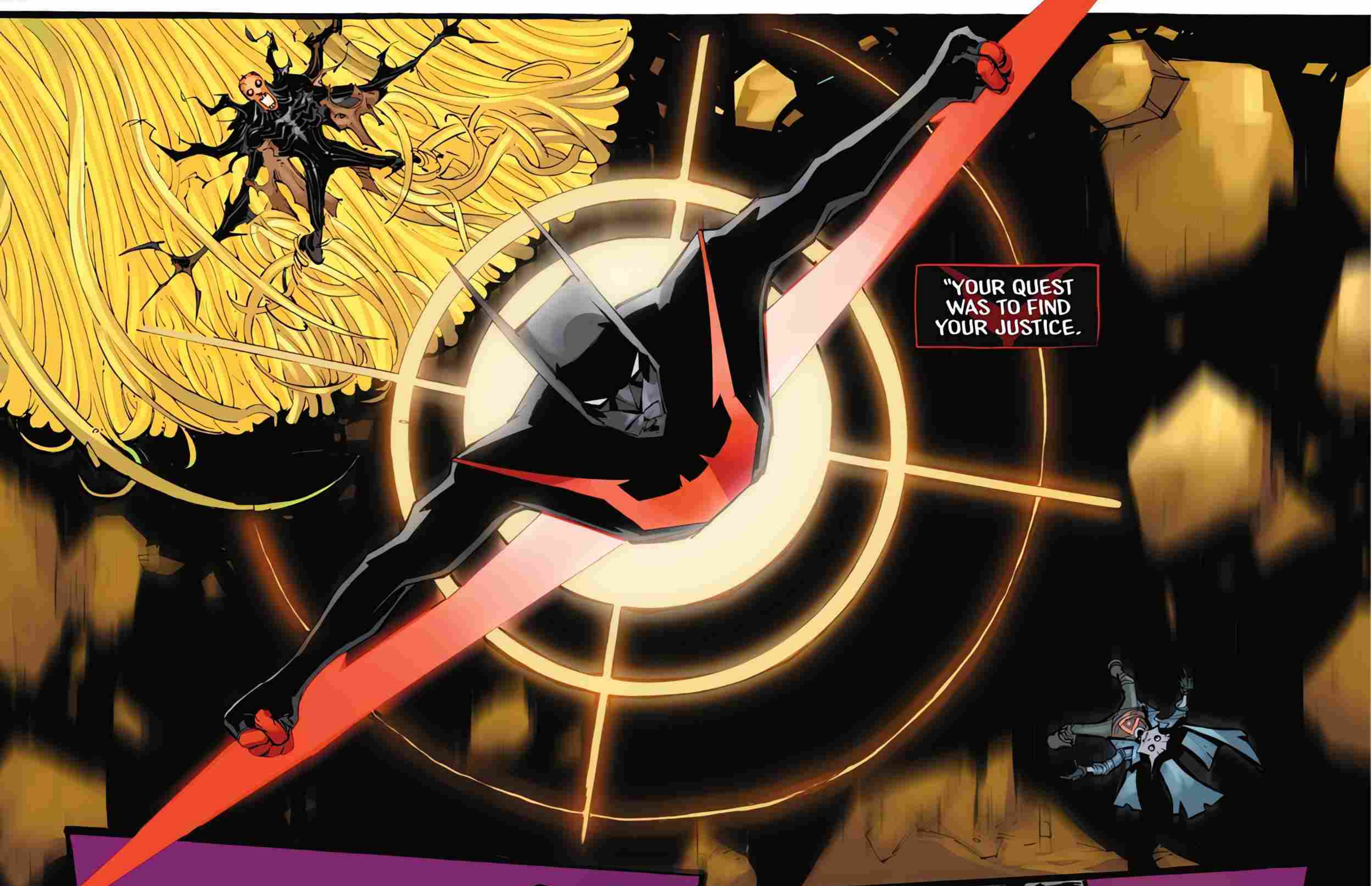
I
KNOW.

BUT THIS
STARTED AS YOUR
FIGHT--AND YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE TO
BE THE ONE
TO END IT.

YOU MIGHT
THINK YOU'RE
A CAT...



...BUT
I SEE A
LION.



"YOUR QUEST
WAS TO FIND
YOUR JUSTICE."



"MINE WAS
TO RESCUE
THESE KIDS."



"BUT NOW WE'VE
GOT TO WORK
TOGETHER..."

"...OR THERE
WON'T BE
ANYTHING
TO SAVE
AT ALL."



NEXT:
**THE FALL OF
NEO-GOTHAM!**



KEITH GIFFEN

1 9 5 2 - 2 0 2 3

KEITH GIFFEN WAS ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANTLY CREATIVE HUMANS EVER TO WORK IN COMICS, THE JACK KIRBY OF MY GENERATION OF CREATORS. HE WAS A CURMUDGEON WITH A HEART OF GOLD. AN OLD, DEAR FRIEND. AND, AS MY WIFE OBSERVED, "HE WAS LIKE A CHARACTER OUT OF A KEITH GIFFEN STORY." SAFE TRAVELS, KEITH. YOU WILL BE MISSED.

—J.M. DeMATTEIS

KEITH WAS A CREATIVE FORCE OF NATURE, GIFTED WITH THE ABILITY TO BOLDLY AND ENDLESSLY PULL HIS CREATIONS FROM A BLANK PAGE AS WE WATCHED IN AMAZEMENT. HE EFFORTLESSLY CONJURED STORIES FROM SOME MYSTICAL PLACE, WITH RAZOR-SHARP WIT THAT WOULD HAVE YOU SMILING ONE MOMENT AND SOCK YOU IN THE GUT THE NEXT. KEITH, WE HOLD YOU IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER.

—HOWARD PORTER

KEITH GIFFEN'S BRILLIANCE AS BOTH WRITER AND ARTIST IS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE INCREDIBLE BREADTH OF HIS WORK OVER MORE THAN 45 YEARS. THAT CREATIVE ENERGY, ALONG WITH HIS ABILITY TO MOVE THROUGH A CASCADE OF IDEAS THAT DIDN'T WORK UNTIL HE FOUND ONE THAT DID, WAS PRIZED BY EVERYONE WHO COLLABORATED WITH HIM.

—DAN JURGENS

I ASKED KEITH ONCE, "WHAT'S THE SECRET TO YOUR CAREER LONGEVITY?" HE SAID, "FIGURE OUT WHAT YOU DO BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE AND OWN THAT LANE. WHEN PUBLISHERS WANT IT, THEY'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO COME TO YOU." THE THING IS, KEITH DIDN'T OWN A LANE. HE OWNED THE WHOLE HIGHWAY. I MISS YOU, MY FRIEND.

—MARK WAID

KEITH HAD THE MOST FERTILE AND IMAGINATIVE MIND IN COMICS IN MY GENERATION. IT WAS A DELIGHT TO BUILD OUT THE FUTURE OF THE DC UNIVERSE WITH HIM.

—PAUL LEVITZ

I OWE MUCH OF WHAT I HAVE TODAY TO KEITH. WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS EVER SINCE I WAS THAT HIGH SCHOOL GIRL DRAWING LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES ART IN FANZINES. HE CALLED ME THE "LITTLE SISTER I NEVER WANTED." BUT IF I HAD WANTED ANOTHER BROTHER, KEITH WOULD HAVE BEEN EVERYTHING I WOULD HAVE ASKED FOR.

—COLLEEN DORAN

HAVING A HARD TIME FINDING THE RIGHT WORDS. ALL I KNOW IS THAT KEITH WOULD BE ANNOYED BY THIS WHOLE THING, BUT IF ANYONE TRULY DESERVED PRAISE AND APPRECIATION FROM THE COMICS INDUSTRY, IT WOULD BE KEITH. I GUESS IT'S A GOOD THING HE'S NOT HERE TO SEE IT.

—DAN DIDIO

KEITH WAS A MASTER STORYTELLER, FULL OF GOOD IDEAS, AND WHEN HE KNEW HE WAS RIGHT HE WOULD FIGHT THE BATTLE UNTIL THE END. THERE ARE NO MORE BATTLES TO FIGHT, MY FRIEND.

—BRIAN MILLER

ANDY HELFER ONCE TOLD ME, "IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE FIRST IDEA KEITH GIVES YOU, WAIT A MINUTE, AND HE'LL PITCH YOU ANOTHER ONE. AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE THAT ONE, WAIT A MINUTE, AND HE'LL HAVE ANOTHER ONE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THE FIRST IDEA OFF THE TOP OF THE DECK FROM KEITH." KEITH WAS BRIGHT AND RESOURCEFUL ENOUGH THAT I ALWAYS TOOK THE FIRST IDEA OFF THE TOP OF THE DECK.

—JOEY CAVALIERI

KEITH WAS THE YOUNGEST GRUMPY OLD MAN I EVER MET—AND THAT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY I LOVED HIM. THE HOURS, DAYS, MONTHS, AND YEARS WE SPENT WORKING AND PLAYING TOGETHER WERE SOME OF THE BEST IN MY TIME AT DC. WITH THE FACILITY OF A KURTZMAN, KEITH COULD PENCIL-SKETCH A FULL ISSUE OF *JLA* IN AN HOUR. AS PART OF THE *JUSTICE LEAGUE* CREW, HE WAS THE FULCRUM THAT BALANCED THE REST OF US, AND HE WILL BE MISSED.

—ANDY HELFER

I'M ALSO WORKING ON THE THIRD *[JLI]* OMNIBUS COVER, AND NOW, LOOKING AT ALL THESE KEITH GIFFEN CHARACTERS LOOKING AT ME, IT FEELS UNSURPRISINGLY MELANCHOLY. A WISE-ASS UNTIL THE END. MAY THE WINGS OF ANGELS FLY YOU ON YOUR NEW ADVENTURE, YOU MAGNIFICENT BASTARD!

—KEVIN MAGUIRE

KEITH POSSESSED AN INCREDIBLE ABUNDANCE OF TALENT, HAD A FEARLESS TAKE ON EVERY PROJECT ASKED OF HIM, AND CREATED SOME OF THE MOST ABSURD, OVER-THE-TOP, AND HILARIOUS CHARACTERS EVER. TRULY A MASTER OF EVERY FACET OF THE CRAFT OF MAKING COMICS AND A CREATIVE DYNAMO LIKE NO OTHER.

—JIM LEE

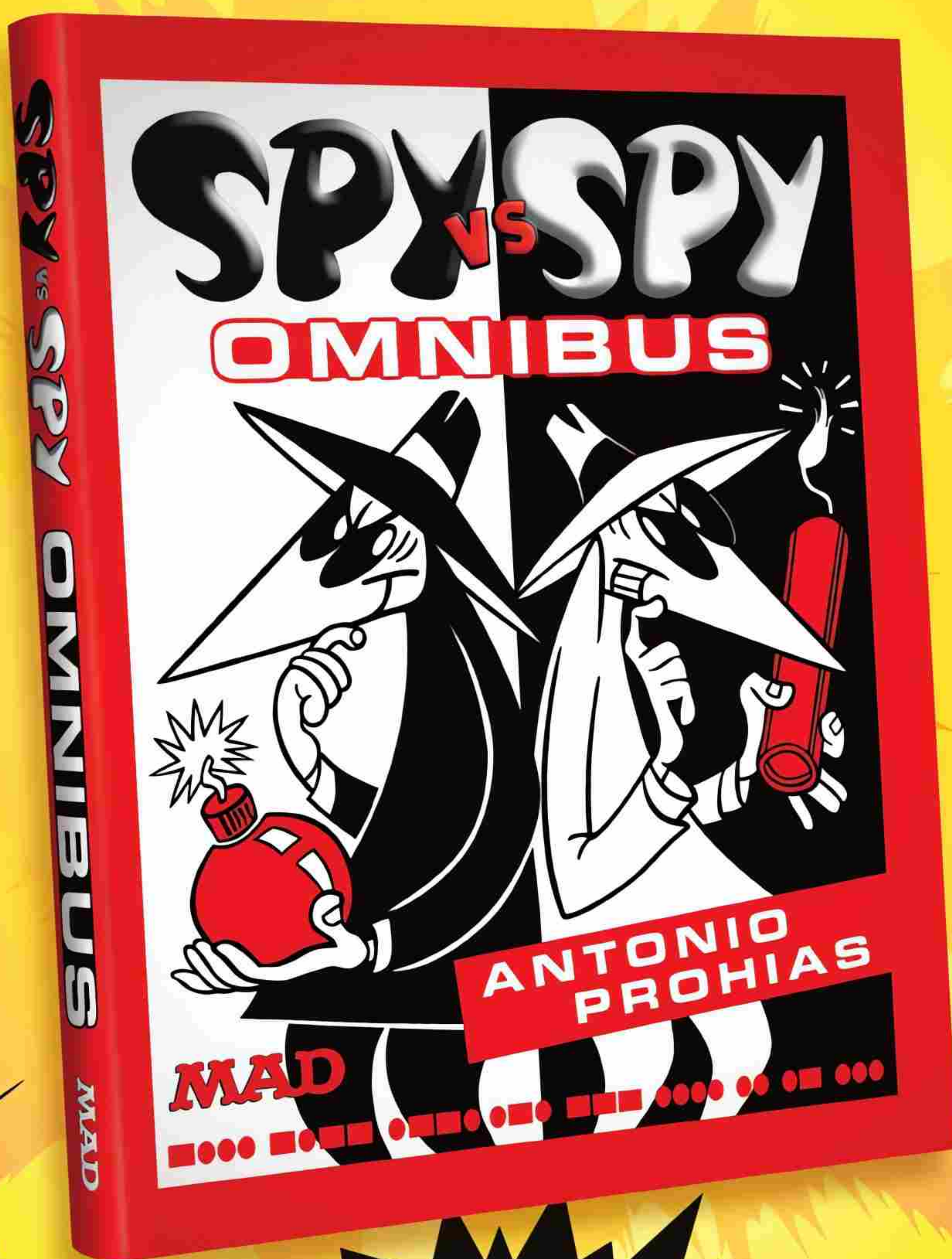
WHEN I WAS A KID, KEITH GIFFEN WAS MY FAVORITE COMIC BOOK CREATOR. IT WAS HIS WORK ON *LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES* AND *JUSTICE LEAGUE* THAT FIRST CAUGHT MY ATTENTION, AND THEN IT WAS HIS EVER-EVOLVING ART STYLE THAT SHOWED A KID LIKE ME THAT YOU COULD HAVE A WEIRD DRAWING STYLE AND STILL MAKE GOOD COMICS. KEITH'S CURMUDGEONLY STYLE HID A HEART OF GOLD AND AN ENDLESSLY RESTLESS CREATIVE SPIRIT. HE WILL BE MISSED. BY ME AND SO MANY FANS AND READERS.
REST IN PEACE, KEITH, AND THANK YOU.

—JEFF LEMIRE



YOUR ASSIGNMENT
IF YOU CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT...
BUY THIS BOOK!

MAD



**KINDA
CHEAP!**

BOOM

THE DIABOLICAL DUO OF DOUBLE-CROSS
AND DECEIT RETURN TO PRINT IN THIS OMNIBUS
COLLECTING 50 YEARS OF SPY VS. SPY!

ON SALE IN DECEMBER

THIS AD WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN 10 SECONDS!





SPOTLIGHT ON



TITANS BEAST WORLD

FOLLOW ALONG WITH ALL THE ACTION IN
THE UNPRECEDENTED *TITANS* CROSSOVER!

NOVEMBER

- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD: EVOLUTION*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #1

DECEMBER

- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD: WALLER RISING*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: METROPOLIS*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #2
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: GOTHAM*
- *ACTION COMICS* #1060
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: CENTRAL CITY*
- *NIGHTWING* #109
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #3
- *TITANS* #6

JANUARY

- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: ATLANTIS*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #4
- *TITANS* #7
- *NIGHTWING* #110
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #5
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: STAR CITY*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #6



***TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #1
MAIN COVER BY IVAN REIS**

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